

REMARKS

In the Final Action dated May 23, 2007, claims 1-4 and 10-38 are pending. Claims 28-38 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-4 and 10-27 are rejected. The declaration is also objected to for failing to provide mailing address for each inventor.

This Response addresses each of the Examiner's rejections and objections. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of all pending claims is therefore respectfully requested.

In the first instance, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the amendments to the claims. Previously pending claims 1-4 and 10-38 have been canceled, and new claims 39-56 are added. Support for new claims 39-56 is found throughout the specification and in previous claims 1, 3-4, 10-14, 16-19, and 21-26. No new matter is introduced.

In the pending Office Action, the declaration is also objected to for failing to provide mailing address for each inventor.

Applicants observe that the only inventor whose mailing address is missing from the original declaration is Vladimir Kaigorodov. Applicants therefore provide herewith a supplemental declaration that includes the mailing address information for Vladimir Kaigorodov, and has been executed by Vladimir Kaigorodov. Withdrawal of the objection to the declaration is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 10-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the Examiner contends that the description of a single yeast strain which produces a single species of a mammalian N-glycan structure (GalGlcNAcMan₅GlcNAc₂), and in which three enzymes (alpha-1,2-mannosidase, N-

acetylglucosaminyltransferase I and a beta-1,4-galactosaminyltransferase or functional parts thereof) are expressed, is insufficient to provide description for yeast strain that produce a genus of mammalian-like N-glycan structures as claimed.

Claims 1-4 and 10-27 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for lacking enablement. The Examiner contends that the specification, while enabling for a yeast strain genetically engineered to produce the specific mammalian-like N-glycan structure consisting of GalGlcNAcMan₅GlcNac₂, does not reasonably provide enablement for a genetically engineered strain that produce a glycoprotein comprising any mammalian-like N-glycan structure.

Applicants respectfully submit that the written description rejection and the enablement rejections are rendered moot in view of cancellation of claims 1-4 and 10-27. Thus, withdrawal of these rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

Applicants further submit that new claims 39-56 are fully enabled and adequately described in the specification. More specifically, independent claim 39 is drawn to a genetically engineered methylotrophic yeast strain, wherein said strain is engineered to express (1) a *Trichoderma reesei* α -1,2-mannosidase or a functional part thereof, (2) an N-acetylglucosaminyltransferase I (GnTI) or a functional part thereof, and (3) a β -1,4-galactosyltransferase (GalT) or a functional part thereof, and the genomic OCH1 gene of said strain is disrupted. The specification provides ample guidance for how to engineer a methylotrophic yeast strain that expresses the recited enzymes and contains an Och1 disruption. Accordingly, the strains, as presently claimed, are adequately described in the specification, and those skilled in the art would be able to make the strains as claimed, without undue experimentation.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is firmly believed that the subject application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'XZ' or 'Xiaochun Zhu', written in a cursive style.

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